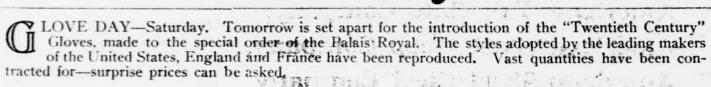
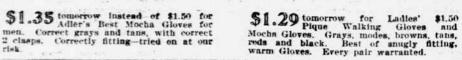
The Palais Royal's \$5 Hats are Franco-American. Models are secured from the leading Parisian milliners-and improved upon in many instances. Twentytwo experts are now busy here-making nothing but hats to retail at \$5. All the latest and best shapes are in the collection. Some need the addition of a flower -purposely omitted so as to give the wearer the opportunity to select for herself. Flowers and Foliage are here from 11c to \$3 bunch—in wholesale quantities.

# The Palais Royal.



#### Men's 1901 Gloves. ...

Choice of two styles Cape Tan Gloves, fac similes in appearance of Fisk, Clark & Flagg's and Dent's \$2 Gloves. As reliableevery pair guaranteed and fitted at our risk.



Ladies' 1901 Gloves.

Fac similes of best \$1.50 French Glace Kid Gloves and best \$2 English Cape Tan Gloves. Only \$1 a pair, but guaranteed as strictly as the more expensive Gloves.

## To Mothers.

The "Opening" of the completed Spring collection in the department devoted to children was lately announced, just when your thought and time were taken up with the "Inauguration." And so we repair the error of time in again inviting your presence, promising even better attractions than before. Tomorrowon third floor.



\$2.98 for \$3.98 Garments.

The Palais Royal has long been famous for its "\$3.98 garments." Many and many a mother has told us that the usual \$5 garments are little or no better. And the 1901 garments are prettiest of all—and they are to be \$2.98 instead of \$3.98 to-morrow. Only for tomorrow.

### 84c for \$1 Garments.

98c tomorrow for Children's Best Glace Kid Gloves, in castors, modes, tans, reds, browns and white. Sizes from the smallest produced to largest made for children's wear. Fitted intelligently.

For \$1.68.

The best \$2.25 All-wool Cloth

Reefers, as in the picture, are to be

\$1.68 tomorrow. Others, in new

Raglan style, for only \$1.68. Some

are plain tailor-made garments, some

are trimmed with braid. All the new

spring shades, in all styles. Sizes 2 to

7 years. Bring the children.

Choice of all \$1 Dresses, Guimpes, Hats and Caps. And little Boys' Suits, Reefors and Underwear. The Palais Royal's \$1 garments are so well known to an army of mothers that we need only add the 1901 styles are prettier than ever, and that the price tomorrow is to be 84c instead of \$1.

#### Yes, Madam, We Can Fit You.

The New Spring Suits are here in such quantity and such variety of styles and sizes that we can guarantee a perfect fit to any woman not positively deformed. In most instances no alterations are necessary. Ladies may call tomorrow with the idea of selecting a suit for Sunday's wear-and they need not be disappointed. And are you adverse to the saving of a dollar or two?

\$18.75 tomorrow for \$20 Chevlot and Venetian Cloth Suits. Some, in Eton effect, have vest of contrasting color. New gored skirt, with "cut" flounce. All sizes, in black, blues, browns, grays and caster.

\$13.50 tomorrow for \$15 Homespun Suits, in latest double-breasted Eton effect, trimmed with stitched taffets. The flaring skirt with "cut" ruffle. All sizes in blues and grays. Call as early as possible tomorrow.

Sunday Jewelry.

The American cheap Jewelry

of this twentieth century marks

a great stride toward perfec-

25¢ for Egyptian Jewelry, among which are Scarabaens, Beetles, Ihhyx Heads and Oriental Crests, in the form of brooches, etc. Vastly different, but equally superior, are the dairty Lorgnette Chains. The Medallion Photo Frames make new and attractive wall decorations. 25c for choice. See displays at G street and 11th street decreases.

Purses and Bags.

Toilet Articles.

Every patron of this department will be presented with a box of Reid's Perfumed Bath

PARKET AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PARKET OF THE
\$1.60 Chamols Skins, largest size 69c
50c Hair Restorer Dr. Bell's 39c
50c Hind's Honey and Almond Cream . 30c
25 bottles Image and Almond Cream 396
25c bottles Imported Bay Rum14c
20c bottles Fragrant Sezodent 21c
20c boxes Seiditz Powders 150
50c "White House" Toilet Water 23c
The count bettler Willer Water 230
25c quart bottles Violet Ammonia 17c
Show King Floating Bath Soan 3.
69c bottles Genuine Borine
25c tubes Fassett's Lilne and Glycerine. 15c
- contract s Line and Grycerine. 190

#### Sunday Belts.

33c to \$3.25 for fac similes of the solid silver pieces you have heretofore seen only at the exclusive jewelry establish-ments, where the prices range from \$3 to \$29. 75C for 98c Belts, 98c for \$1.25 Belts, \$1.49 for \$1.98 Belts, tomorrow's special prices for the New Gold Belts, with very beautiful buckles.

#### Sunday Neckwear.

\$3.98 tomorrow for New \$5 Slik Petti-coats. Some with accordion-

plaited ruffle and deep flounce. Some with

three small ruffles. New purples, blues, reds, greens, old rose, cerise and black.

The very latest novelty—the new tailor-made Stock at 75c instead of \$1 tomorrow.

25c tomorrow for 50c Stocks and Lace Ties....44c for the 50c Chenille Dotted Chiffon Veils....98c for the new Persian effect Liberty Silk Scarfs, extra wide and 1½ yards long....And great bargains in "odds and ends"—Saturday is our Remnant Day in this department, Call early and secure the best bargains.

#### New Handkerchiefs.

121/2c for choice of hundreds of different styles, some having all the appearance of 25c. lace border handkerchiefs. See the window display,—over 25,000 handkerchiefs.

### The Housekeepers' List.

(Saturday Specials.)

the same of the sa
Nickel-plated Tea Kettle, value, 69c
New Haven Alarm Clocks, fully warranted
date data clocks, limy warranted
The Playen lime tacks. This warranted to
Burnishine Metai Polish, 19e value
Control Portsu, 19c value11c
Suratoga Chip Cutter. Zac value
French Fried Potato Slicers. 19c value
The Hard Control of the value
The Handy Can Opener-a child can use it
Bread Slicers cut evenly and any thickness
Extension Dollar Chatas 64
Extension Roller Skates—fit any shoe
Spratt's Dog Cake, per bound.
They Collars ato for as little as
Dog Collars, etc., for as little as

#### Books Reduced.

75c On the Sunny Shore, Slenklewicz	
\$1.00 Daily Light and Strength, religious	
\$1.00 Daily Food for Christians	
50e Book on Palmistry	
\$1.00 Knights of the Cross, Sienkiewicz	
50c Romance of L'Aiglon	
50c The Little I Saw of Cuba	
50c Elizabeth and Her German Garden	
25c English Woman's Love Letters	
\$1.00 Christian Teachings (Tolstoi)	
\$1.00 Sappho, Illustrated	
\$1.25 The Lost Army, Thos. Knox	
\$1.25 Boys' Life of General Grant	
75c Les Miserables, large type	
\$2.00 Rise of the Dutch Republic, 2 vols	
voise of the Paten Republic, a vois	

## Palais Royal, ALISNER, G & 11th Sts.

LIFE IN LIGHTHOUSES.

Much Worse Than Prison, and Keepers Sometimes Lose Their Minds. From the London Mail.

During the storms that rage intermittently around our coasts in winter, the landsman's mind turns in sympathy toward those who in ship or lifeboat are fighting the waves for dear life. But how often does he give one thought to the men who immure themselves in the lighthouses that stud our coast line?

"I would rather spend my life in a penal settlement than be a lighthouse keeper," declared a gentleman to the writer, after a visit to the Bishop lighthouse, off the Cornish coast. "A convict does see a little of the world he lives in, but a lighthouse keeper sees nothing but a dreary expanse of water. I am not surprised that many of them should lose their mental balance."

The visitor to the Bishop lighthouse did not over-color the picture. It was only the other day that one read of the Longships lighthouse, also off the coast of Cornwall, having been completely isolated for many weeks in consequence of fearful storms. The keepers had been reduced to smoking coffee, hops and tea leaves, though, fortu-nately, they had not wanted for food. The keepers of the famous Eddystone

not infrequently find themselves in a similar predicament. In a gale the waves that buffet themselves against this wonderful monument to the engineering skill of the country are of such stupen-dous magnitude that they rise to a height of 200 feet, and sweep right over the lan-tern. To those cooped up inside the sound of these waves is like that of a battery of guns at close quarters. "At such times the house shakes like a tree with a man on the top of it," was the graphic descripone who spent many years of his

most comfortable of all our rock lighthouses. A sectional view shows the va-rious compartments, commencing at the bottom with the water tank, then the entrance, the two oil receptacles, the storeroom, the crane, the living apartment, the tht, the bedroom, and the service Formerly only two keepers were employed in the lighthouse, but a grim in-cident resulted in their number being in-creased. One of the two men died. So fierce ran the seas that the remaining keeper could not get the body of his late comrade to the shore. For a month the tempestuous weather continued, and for a month the surviving keeper lived alone in that solitary place with the body as lis only companion! He was afraid to cast it into the waves, for he might be accused of

The new Eddystone is the roomiest and

Keepers of rock lighthouses do not last keepers of rock lighthouses do not last long. The incessant pounding of the waves against the building, the loneliness, the want of fresh air and exercise reduce the men to a state of nervousness that is sometimes pitiful to behold. They require a fortnight's leave every six weeks, but this liberal allowance does little to improve liberal allowance does little to improve

To Prevent the Grip

their physical state. A medical man whose duty it is to pay periodical visits to one of our lighthouses confesses that there is no remedy for the ills peculiar to the keepers The utter isolation of the silent sentinels

of our coast is well illustrated by the case of the Bishop lighthouse aforementioned, which stands right out in the Atlantic. Not nce in a year is it calm enough for the superintendent to land his stores at the lighthouse steps. They have to be hauled up by means of a windlass from above. A isitor bold enough to visit the place is "admitted" in a similar way. He places one foot in a noose at the end of a rope, which is thrown down to his boat, gripping the rope firmly above his head he is drawn up to the "set off," as the plinth round the lighthouse is called. Thence he

limbs up a perpendicular ladder to the door of the house.
Superstition adds a terror to the life of the men in this lighthouse, for the first structure was washed away bodily, and the keepers believe that the rock is haunted. A fear of a different kind keeps the men of Muck's Flugga lighthouse—the most north-ern point of Scotland—on the tenterhooks of a terrible suspense. On three ocasions the huge black rock on which the light-

nouse stands has been shaken by an earth-

nuake There is something comical, though characteristic of the stiff-necked Scot, in a story which comes from a neighboring ighthouse, which is in charge of two diferent families. They live on a desert island. From year end to year end they never see a visitor, except the man was brings their stores. Eighteen months ago the heads of the two families quarreled, and ever since they have ceased to speak At the shore lighthouse of Ushinish the keeper's family have to travel forty miles It is no reflection on their to add that they are not regular attend-

A lighthouse keeper receives a maximum wage of £75 a year, out of which he has to supply his own rations. These consist of such unappetizing edibles as tinned beet and hard biscuits, usually washed down with weak tea and condensed milk. No intoxicating liquors are allowed.

#### Called on the Vice President.

Rev. Charles C. McLean, D.D., of this city, accompanied by Rev. F. D. Gamewell, commander of the defenses in Pekin during the period when the allies were besieged by the Boxers, called upon Vice President Roosevelt yesterday in his room at the Capitol and had a pleasant interview. The Vice President was greatly interested in a briet narrative given by Dr. Gamewell of his ex-periences in the beleaguered quarters at the Chinese capital.

Force of Habit.

The game was finished, and with restful They sat beneath the tall, straight syca-

more. He pleaded for a kiss. Just one, my queen!" And she, unthinking, softly murmured, "Fore?" SOME SHIPS ARE UNLUCKY.

Seamen Cannot Be Induced to Disregard Their Prejudices. From the London Chronicle.

"Unlucky ships" in our navy have a most unpleasant way of acting up to their reputations. Any bluejacket will tell you that the most unlucky ship in the navy is the Thunderer-he is firmly convinced that in the event of war she will come to grief. The origin of this ship's reputation is not exactly known, though a story exists to the effect that a workman was injured or killed during her construction and his dependents scurvily treated by the admiralty of the period. His wife, dying in childbirth shortly afterward, cursed the ship. So goes the legend; possibly enough, like many another legend, it was made later on to fit events. No doubt whatever attaches to the Thunderer's ill luck-a fearful boiler explosion and a terrible gun disaster marked her earlier years. Minor disasters have been many. Most things that could go wrong with her did so, and, though it was recently stated that she had outlived her bad luck, almost mmediately afterward all her guns went wrong—a matter under inquiry at the present moment. She is being put out of commission and replaced by the Hood, and it is extremely doubtful whether she will be employed again, save as a harbor ship-men

Another unlucky ship is the Howe. went ashore and sank at Ferrol. Subsequently she was raised and refloated, but her "bad luck" clings to her; she is the worst ship of her batch to manage. By bluejacket superstition she is doomed to sink some consort or be sunk by her one Then there was the ill-fated Victoria.

horrible story (absolutely without founda-tion) about a man who was accidentally fastened down to die in her used to be re-lated in the early nineties. She met with disasters, culminating in the terrible catas-trophe that bears her name. The saddest of all incidents in connection with this catas-trophe has never been made public. When the order was given for each man to jump a batch of marines were not ordered to fall out. All or nearly all of those men were drowned standing at attention. However, this incident does not concern the luck of

The list of unlucky ships could be extended considerably, but the above typical cases will suffice. In fact, of them it is absolutely will sumce. In fact, of them it is absolutely useless to argue against nautical superstitions. The "bad luck," of course, varies; in the majority of cases it is confined to breakdowns and so forth, but, whatever it be, once the "unlucky" reputation attaches to a ship it will last until she ends her career. And since the new royal yacht has thus got labeled, nothing that may be said or left unsaid of her will clear her. As she has cost over £500,000, something must be done with her. One superstition is that done with her. One superstition is that royalty will decline to use her and that she will be handed over to the lords of the admiralty in place of the Enchantress, the anything but seaworthy craft that now carries them around

SECRETARY WILSON WILL HAVE PLANS PREPARED.

Obtain. Appropriation From Congress for a Wing

Next Winter.

The Secretary of Agriculture will, in a few days, call upon the supervising architect of the treasury for plans for a new building for the Department of Agriculture By a provision in the sundry civil appropriation bill the Segretary of Agriculture is authorized to expend \$5,000 in the preparation of plans for the new building, but before asking assistance from private archi-

Secretary Wilson has received assurances from influential members of Congress that an appropriation for a new building for the Department of Agriculture will be made during the first session of the fiftyseventh Congress. The Secretary today

tects he will seek to have the plans fur-

nished by the Treasury Department.

Secretary Wilson's Plans. "We want a handsome building-nothing

oo elaborate, but we want it to be good in all ways. We want a building that will be a credit to the government of the United States, the Department of Agriculture and the city of Washington. We want a building that will be comfortable to work in and pleasing to look at. As to the architectural style to be followed, I am going to take advice, but the building ought to be of stone. We want a quadrangle. I have been assured that Congress next winter will let us have enough money to winter will let us nave enough money to begin with, and then we shall begin the construction of one of the wings. I don't know whether it will be at the north or south end of the present building, but that dees not matter. Winter after next we will begin the erection of the second wing, and in the season after that we will tear out this old building and put up the front of the new structure.

"This building was condemned by experts

"This building was condemned by experts twenty years ago, and the work of the department has been almost doubled because of lack of facilities for the working force. To illustrate our growth, I have sent to the agricultural colleges for fifty young men to come to this department to take a postgraduate course. I will pay them \$40 a month. This will induce them to specialize, and when they shall have completed their post-graduate course they will enter their post-graduate course they will enter the civil service properly, and then they will get better salarles. This is fine talent that we are asking for, and I don't feel like putting these young men up in the fourth story of this old building, directly under the roof, on which the sun beas down fiercely in the summer time. Need of a Laboratory.

"The provision in the sundry civil bill for the construction of a building for the departmental laboratory was stricken out in conference, but I have been assured that this was not because it is thought in Congress we do not need such a building; but you know there was a fight on, and that item had to go out.

"The Department of Agriculture is now conducting all of its laboratory work in rented buildings, located outside of the department grounds. These buildings are for the most part mere makeshifts, consisting of dwelling houses remodeled to permit laboratory work. Some of them are over-crowded, and none are fireproof. There are five of these buildings, which, with rent and five of these buildings, which, with rent and other expenses, cost the department about \$10,000 a year. The work carried on by the laboratories is of the highest importance, including the investigations of the bureau of animal industry, the division of themistry, the division of vegetable physiology and pathology, the division of soils and the division of botany. Much of the material now in use by these branches of the department, as well as that being constantly accumulated by them, is of great value, and it would be impossible to replace it in case of loss by fire. It is absolutely necessary that better facilities be secured for sary that better facilities be secured for this scientific work, other by the rent of additional buildings or by the erection of a government building."

LOLIGO CUTTLE.

Fish That Squirts Ink Into the Face of Its Enemy.

From the Contemporary Review.

The largest loligo I have seen measured three feet eight inches without attempting to stretch its tentacles. Like the fishes, they seem to sleep with one eye closed at a time, as I have seen them resting on the sea bottom for this purpose, and when the bait fell near the sleeping side it was unobserved, but when dropped on the other it was gripped at once.

Their enemies are all the carniverous fishes, which they often evade either by evolution, fight, or mimicry, for all of which devices they have some special adaptations. In the first instance, they have two tough, flexible fins or wings, high on the back, which enable them to swim forward or backward without turning, which is an accommodation of great utility in either attack or retreat. Then, their eyes are so situated as almost to command a circle. This also in a fight is invaluable, for they can see all their enemies end know their power, and can advance or retire as the occasion may require. Then, besides their ink bag, they have a muscular siphon enabling them to shoot their enemies

n the air some ten feet and in the sea some three or four feet away.

Not long ago a friend of mine saw a skirmish between a loligo and its enemy, ir which the cuttle came off the victor. He was fishing in the clear water off Mevagissey bay, and, wishing to catch a John Doree, he tied the end of his line to the tail of a live young sea bream and threw it into the sea. Now, a doree is fond of living food and likes to swallow it headforemost. This suits the fisherman, as when devoured in this form the spines of the bream act as hooks to the fisherman's line and are sure to bring all on board.

The bream had not got far down in the sea before a cuttle saw it and quickly fastened on to the back of its neck, and be-fore any steps were taken to scare it away a large doree was seen coming to the front. There was no doubt or hesitation about its purpose, for it was seen that it desired to swallow the lot, as it was quietly going forward all the time, but taking a side view as the opportunity best offered. When about five feet from its quarry there was a violent rush on it, with jaws wide open, but there was just as quick action on the other side, for the contents of the ink bag were as quickly shot into the open mouth. In an instant, with the impetus of the rush, the doree was in a cloud of thick darkness and

the cuttle slunk out of sight.

The doree appeared out of the muddle in a dreadful state; its eyes rolled as if in terror and its beautiful olive skin had turned deadly pale, while its coughing and fuming were something to be remembered, fuming were something to be remembered, black matter being again and again expectorated from gills and mouth. It was really thought that the creature was about to die, and the gaff was got ready to take it on board, for it had floated up within four feet of the bost, but, noting her outline, it gently sank into the depths below. When gaffing the muttle for bait the face of the fisherman—unless he has something white about him—is always the loligo's target for shooting out of the water.

I remember having a noted London for-

I remember having a noted London doctor out at sea for a little amateur fishing. He would like to see a leligo cuttle caught, he said. I warned him of what was likely to happen when gaffing was on, but he did not care. "Surely," he said, "I can dodge such guesswork as this must be for so short a time." I felt dubious as to the result, seeing his white shirt was a prominent object through his having such an open vest. Fimally a cuttle took the bait, and as I drew it toward us the doctor lost all thought of himself and his adornments in his admiration of the movement and the beautiful eyes of the creature, when in an instant, as I gaffed it, the whole ink charge struck him in the throat.

Virtue Poorly Rewarded.

From the London Chronicle. A curious example of the reward of ex-

cessive virtue is the case of certain British pickle manufacturers who have been making their pint bottles hold a little more than a pint, to be on the safe side of the English law. When these pint bottles arrived at Canada they found that there was a law in operation which provides that any package measuring more than a pint must pay duty as a quart.

If you want work read the want columns of The Star.

Our Closing-Time: Week-days 6 p.m. Saturdays 9 p.m.

Our late winter-weights are just the Shoes for these cold March-days-as well as for the warmer Spring-weather that will soon follow. Like the many new Spring-shoes. that have already arrived, they're revelations in style and beauty and are all that good

Our steadily increasing Sales have the effect-each season-of making either prices less or qualities better.

### NEW SPRING SHOES

Of wonderful Beauty

AT REMARKABLY MODERATE PRICES.

#### Guaranteed Patent Leather.

Ideal Kid Shoes are having an enormous demand already.— Ours are the swellest styles—and the only ones sold with this printed guarantee attached to each Pair: "A new Pair FREE if Uppers break through before Sole is worn out."
They're the equals of any \$5 Shoes, but our prices are for both

Women's and Men's Laced and Button Boots......\$3.50

#### The "WI-MO-DAU-SIS"

are in, improved in quality, and to our former popular shapes we have added two new, nobby Styles: French concaved heels, both are the snapplest Shoes we ever

The Best Shoes 

\$2.50 Men's and Women's Hand-Sewed Shoes. Unquestionably the best values and prettiest styles you ever bought of anybody for that price—many of the most popular new spring shapes of Laced, Button and Oxfords are already here.

Women's new spring Shoes that look, fit and are guaranteed to wear as well as any \$2 Shoes 6 new styles.

Our \$1.50 Wear-proof Boys' and Girls' Shoes are the nobblest and best Shoes you've ever seen for the price.

Our \$1.00

Boys' and Girls' Shoes are truly wonders, considering the price. You never bought

#### WINTER-WEIGHTSHOES

Suitable for early Spring-wear

AT STILL GREATER REDUCTIONS.

#### Men's \$3.50, \$4 and \$5 Shoes.

Fine hand-made heavy single and double Sole Dress, Walking and Storm Shoes, of best grades of Enamel leather, Box and Ve-lour Calf, also most durable Tan leathers—that have been selling for \$3.50 and \$4 and a few at \$5.

For a short For a short time longer at......\$2.65

## Women's \$2.50, \$3 and

\$3.50 Shoes.

Any of these 3 kinds at .....

\$1.65.

Boys' \$2.50 Enamel, Box Calf and Sterling Calf Ex-tension-sole, Extra Durable and Dressy Shoes. Nearly every size and width.

\$1.19. Women's \$1.50 Grade Vici Kid Dressy Laced and But-ton, with heavy flexible soles.

39c.

Boys' and Girls' Stout Kid and Box Calf \$1 Grade Shoes. Sizes 8½ to 2. 19c.

Men's and Women's Warm Black Kersey Cloth Over-

\$1.37.

Men's \$2 Grade Box Calf, Stout, Extension-edge Laced Shoes. Nearly every size here tomorrow morning, but you'd better call early.

69c.

WM. HAHN & CO.'S 3 Reliable Shoe Houses.

. Corner 7th and K Sts. 1914 and 1916 Pa. Ave. 233 Pa. Ave. S. E.

DRINKING IN OLD MEXICO.

The Huge Tropical Thirst That Seems to Possess the Capital City.

City of Mexico Correspondence Boston Herald. The native papers have been busily discussing the question of the popular drinking shop, the classic "pulquerias," where the poor man's drink is sold in a more or less adulterated condition, for here the juice of the maguey plant or pulque rarely reaches the consumer in its proper state. Into the great of alcohol earnest enough to suit the most barrels is poured the pulque fresh from the far-famed plains of Apam, coming here in trainloads in the early morning before the sun is up. To "extend" the pulque many combinations are employed, such as starch and water, ground up pumpkin shells, and sometimes cheap native spirit, with water poured in. But the latter is too expensive for general use.

Pulque is, when pure, a tonic and a food; it realizes Prof. Atwater's idea of alcohol as an alimentary substance. It makes blood fast, repairs the waste of the system in a hard-working man rapidly, and is to the masses here on the tableland both food and With tortillas, or thin corn cakes and beans, it makes up the staff of life, the daily ration of hundreds of thousands of poor people. In the spring of the year the seeker for a genuine tonic will find nothing better adapted to this climate of thin air

and hot sunshine than sound pulque.

But the doctors and the police are united in denouncing the abuse of pulque and the adulterations employed, and a movement has been started to stop the popular use of the pulquerias as places of rendezvous, the clubs of the lowest social class. It is argued that if the pulque were sold, "not to be drunk on the premises"—most familiar words-we should have far less crime. And this is undoubtedly true. An average of four hundred homicides in this city every year is fairly chargeable to the quarrels growing out of the abuse of pulque. This is a whole temperance argument in a few words. And there is today in this city of about 400,000 people a pulqueria to every 389 inhabitants. Drink is the curse of this

tropical city. Above the grade of the pulquerias, frequently so attractive in their naif gaudiness. are the cantinas or bar rooms. These abound like pernicious microbes; every grocery nowadays is incomplete without its cantina shut off usually by glazed or thin wood partitions, and with a more or less successful imitation of an "American bar," for so has our civilization given this doubtful boon to Mexico. Grocery lads, mostly young Spaniards, tend the bars and sell frankly artificial wines and fraudulent brandy, and mix the most incredibly bad cocteles. (Do you recognize the familiar "cocktail?") With the multiplication of these cantinas in the "American style," often boldly displaying the sign "Bar room, American drinks," has come a scourge of alcoholism in this city

such as was never known before.

Every day the police pick up the victims of alcoholic excess, half dead and prone in the public ways in the lower quarters of this city, and take them to the police sta-tion. "Dead from alcoholic congestion" is one of the most common records in the police stations among the lists of fatalities.
The poor and ill-fed drink to gain a sensation of transient comfort; they are empty-stomached and crave warmth, the false sensations of the sensation of transient comfort; they are empty-stomached and crave warmth, the false sensations are sensations. stomached and crave warmth, the faise sen-sation of being fed. Mere lads sent on er-rands, shop boys out collecting bills, go to the bar rooms for a "copita" or dram. So menacing is this wave of alcoholism, so dreadful its results, that the authorities are giving much thought to the matter; it is the veriest curse of modern times. I doubt if 10 per cent of the ardent liquors con-

sumed here are what they pretend to be. They seem to burn the life, the nerve force, out of men.

I do not believe that the soddening efis common among the lower classes, is as tippling among the upper grades of society. True, you don't see much drunkenness in the middle class, but there are tens of thousands of people who are diseased through the abuse of alcohol. It is the encourager

of licentiousness and the promoter of crime. This the police records show. The government is talking of posting temperance charts everywhere, with pictorial representations of the drunkard's progress, quite in the old-fashioned style of temperance propaganda in the United States, and with accompanying text showing from a scientific point of view the harm

It is quite true here that if you throw a stone anywhere you will hit some sort of a drinking place. The town has a huge, insatiable, tropical thirst. It is the evil that cries aloud for reform. The street rallway

cause of crime and of murder here. The police authorities concur with the physicians; all enlightened opinion is solidly against the drink evil. The great native doctors say that the bar room is a worse evil here than the pul-querias, and they point to the undersize of the young men who tipple and to the greater height of the Mexican girl who has

The very strongest language I have heard on this matter came from a famous Mexican physician. He is a water drinker and a fo ardent temperance reformer. He says that alcohol is the deadliest enemy of the Mexican people and declares that it has assumed the proportions of a national scourge with-

in the past fifteen years.
"Your Yankee bar rooms and mixed drinks are the ruination of our young men," he tells me, and he asks scornfully; "Is this your vaunted civilization?"
Fortunately beer drinking is becoming

more popular; the mild beers brewed here are excellent, and they serve to break the force of the wave of strong alcohol flowing over Mexican cities. In the old days when people drank the aguardiente of the country or else tequila

and were innocent of any notion of mixed drinks, there was less intemperance. But the enormous increase in the number, of bar rooms is spoken of by all the elderly people. I believe one prime cause of the increasing intemperance to be the under feeding of the population; notoriously, the race of good cooks of the fine old Mexican sort is dying out.

TEXTILE FIBERS.

Some Processes Which Have Recently Come Into Practical Operation. From Chambers' Journal.

A German doctor, improving on a method patented in France some years ago, has produced from cotton a fiber which in many respects surpasses the material from which it is prepared, and the same may be said of an English process patented in 1897, by which, from a mass of cotton dissolved in certain chemicals, continuous threads may be spun and fibers obtained of any desired length. The fineness and length of the fiber produced by either of these processes are the chief features of improvement, which may possibly induce manufacturers to take them up. The former is already being han-dled on a large scale on both sides of the

channel; and the latter, although as yet scarcely beyond the experimental stage, bids fair to become equally successful.
We hear that even silk—the queen of all fibers—is not secure on her throne. She likewise has many competitors, and that little lepidopterous laborer, the silkworm, is likely soon to be out of work. Of these, one hails from certain Mediterranean shores, notably Sicily, where at low tide, from myriads of shellfish which attach themselves to the rocks and larger stones upon the beach, a quantity of very fine and glossy fibrous matter not unlike a cobweb. and similar in appearance to silk, is ob-tained, and this, when thoroughly washed, dried and combed, is made up into fabrics. Another fiber which threatens to displace

the produce of the silkworm is that known as Vandura silk, produced in Glasgow by artificial means and at a very small cost. It consists of extremely fine threads obtained by forcing a gelatinous solution through a number of minute apertures; and after undergoing a special water-proofing process the fibers become pliable, and can be handled on the looms with perfect ease.

Spun glass, in fine and glossy fibers, capable of conversion into textile fabrics possessing a sheen even surpassing that of silk has long been known. silk, has long been known; but unfortunat ly it has serious disadvantage, unfitting it for general use.

HOW ARSENIC GETS INTO BEER. The Difference Between Old and New Methods of Brewing. From the Pall Mail Gazette.

In the olden days malt was barley in which germination had been carried on to a certain extent and then suddenly cut off by the application of heat, the object of the process being, by promoting the growth of the germ, to attain the conversion of the starch into sugar, which is known to be complete when what is called the acrospire has reached three parts of the way up the grain. This, when brewed with hops, water and yeast, will give a beer of the kind that Robert Burns called Inspiring, bold John Barleycorn,

HEADACHE Pain Pills At all drug stores. 25 Doses 25c.

that, although they could not charge the publican the extra duty that was imposed on beer by the chancellor of the exchequer because it was so small, the publican could not raise his retail price, maize produced "flakes" or "glucose," which, if used in place of malt, gave a margin that would considerably more than pay the extra tax. But the brewers forgot what Edward Young said nearly two hundreds years ago: Man makes a death which nature never

It is a matter that must not be forgotten that no mechanical means or chemical pro-cess can do so perfectly any work as nature does it, and so we have in the malting of barley every starch cell affected by the growth of the plumule and rootlets, but in the manufacture of "flaked" maize or glucose from maize the mechanical and chemical process is imperfect, containing, as it does, some of the starch unconverted. This proportion is considerably increased if unripe or undeveloped maize is used, and neretial the danger.

th lies the danger.

Whatever the finding of the royal commission is, it is to be hoped that, if substitutes are sanctioned in place of barley malt, inspectors will be especially appointed in order to see that not only wholesome materials are employed, but that the starch is converted by the sulphuric acid in the case of glucoses, or thoroughly cooked or gel-atinized in the case of malze, flaked or

Extraordinary evidence was given at the inquest in Liverpool on the body of one of

otherwise, prepared for brewers' use.

the victims of arsenicated beer. Prof. Campbell Brown, University College, Liverpool, spoke of his analysis of a sample of sulphuric acid taken on November 27 from Messrs. Bostock's works. Some of the crystals were almost entirely white arsenic. Theye were in an unusual form. The ar-senic was more soluble in warm than in cold sulphuric acid. What he found would be, in his opinion, excessively dangerous, if used for food products, and also unfit for a great many other manufacturing processes besides food. He had made a calculation of the total amount the total amount of arsenic found. This calculation extended for thirty weeks in the summer delivery, and it gave a total of more than four tons of white arsenic in the season, which was upward of 300 pounds of white arsenic per week, or 2,191,000 grains per week, and if that were divided into equal doses and administered at one time to people, it was enough to kill a million persons per week (laughter) or the whole of the inhabitants of Great Britain in a season. Of course, it would have to be taken at one time. In reply to the coroner, the witness said that sulphuric acid was used in small quantities in the char. Any acid used for cleaning the char would be partly, at any rate, absorbed by the char partly, at any rate, absorbed by the char and pass out in the next sugar, so that it would contaminate even the cane sugar. Cross-examined by Mr. Tindal Atkinson for Messrs. Nicholson & Sons, Leeds, the witness was not prepared to deny that the oldest recorded fatal dose of arsenic was two and a half grains, but in his opinion far less than that would kill. An English Fish Yarn.

From the London Telgeraph. A second edition of the legend of Jonah on a small scale is just now the subject of

much talk among anglers, who naturally are always interested in facts connected with rod and line. According to the Anglers' News a jack which was caught in a competition at Ongar, in Essex, was subsequently dissected to find out what balt, and how much of it, had been bolted before capture, and in its stomach was found a goldfish, which the glutton had swallowed holus-bolus. A slight twitching was noticed in the miniature Jonah's dorsal fin, and it was promptly transferred to a globe of water, where next morning it was found nate prisoner must have been in the jack's interior for at least twelve hours before his release, and the vitality of the tiny creature was therefore remarkable. Dur-ing the incarceration its upper lip was con-siderably damaged, but by persistently swimming round the globe with the wound-

satiable, tropical thirst. It is the evil that cries aloud for reform. The street rallway company, in selecting its motormen, found it necessary to send to the country, or rather to take only country-bred young men who are strong-bodied and free from alcoholism. I am not exaggerating the state of things; the Mexican papers have been talking very plainly about the general curse, and are working in the interest of temperance reform. They show that the degeneration of the population is due to alcohol in its many forms; that it is the chief